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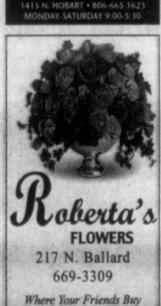
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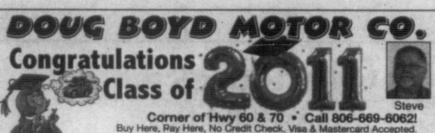


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TODAY IN SPORTS Academic ace PHS grad Tice earns academic honors at Southeastern

Page 8

inside: Talk

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

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Volume 107 • No. 43

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CASA in search of qualified local volunteers

and

ARNIE AURELLANO editor@thepampanews.com

Janet Watts, executive director of the Court Appointed Special Advocates For Children (CASA) of the High Plains, is imploring the community for volunteer help, describing the need for CASA volunteers as "desperate."

"CASA exists to provide trained court-appointed volunteers to advocate for children who have new volunteers today and every



Watts said. "To be really honest, we could get 15

from

home

placed

foster care

because of

abuse and

neglect,'

one of them be assigned to a case as soon as they finish training. At this moment, we have 17 cases waiting for volunteers. CASA currently has 36 active volunteers within the eight coun-

ties it serves: Gray, Hemphill, Lipscomb, Roberts, Wheeler, Hansford, Ochiltree and Donley. "Gray County at the moment

is our biggest need," Watts said. "What is happening is we are having kids removed at one of the highest rates we've seen in quite some time.

"We are finishing up the first nine months of our fiscal year, so we're three-fourths of the way into our fiscal year. We have gotten 51 new kids out of Gray County alone during that time... We are just seeing an unprecedented rate of kids coming into care. Our program's been here for 17 years and I've been here from CASA cont. on page 3

PRIMROSE PATH



staff photo by David Bowser

Gray County Auditor Elaine Morris (left) and Sandi Martin of Judge Peet's office examine the newly planted flowerbed along the path leading into the courthouse. A&T Yard Service, who cares for the courthouse grounds, completed planting the flowerbed this week. Morris said they will now turn their attention to the trees on the courthouse grounds.

SA's summer day program finds donors

RANDY PRIBBLE rpribble@thepampanews.com

Through the generosity of two foundations and a private donor, some 30 Pampa children will be able to participate in a summer day program.



Salvation Army's Boys and Girls Club was chartered two and a half years ago and since then has held a summer session providing

activities and nutrition for needy school-aged children up to 9 years old. However, cutbacks and shortfalls of over \$27,000 in grant funds this year put the program in jeopardy.

"We sat down (about two months ago) and figured out the minimum amount we needed to make the program work," said Capt. Mark Martin of the local Salvation Army unit. He said they thought they could provide the program for about \$20,000. "Then, we got a hold of Kimberly Lueb and asked her to see what she could do about coming up with some other grants."

Lueb is the Army's Regional Resource Development Director. SALVATION cont. on page 5

City Commission makes June 25 runoff official

DAVID BOWSER

dbowser@thepampanews.com The Pampa City Commission

set June 25 for the runoff election between John Studebaker and Cleo Meaker for Ward 1 commissioner.

Studebaker and Meaker were the top candidates in a threeway race in the May city elections, but neither garnered a majority of the votes cast.

Studebaker got 38.84 percent of the vote (362 of the 932 votes cast). Meaker got 31.76 percent (296 votes).

city commission meeting.

The third candidate in the race, Gary Winton, got 274 votes.

Since no candidate won a true majority of the votes in the May election, there will be a runoff between Studebaker and Meaker.

The commission also named Nell Bailey election judge for the June 25 runoff and Ora Mae Hedrick as alternate.

· Robert Dixon was also sworn in as commissioner for Ward 3 during Tuesday afternoon's regularly scheduled

· Commissioners also passed on second and final reading ordinances that amended the city budget to allow for added CITY cont. on page 5



staff photo by David Bowser

The glow of the monitor reflects in City Commissioner Robert Dixon's glasses as fellow Commissioner Becky Holmes points out features of the new paperless agenda system the City of Pampa is adopting. The city commission went through a training session Tuesday afternoon following their regularly scheduled meeting at City Hall.

Boomtown Block Party & Business Expo and Top O' Texas BBQ Cook-off

July 9 at Recreation Park/Rodeo Grounds Registration forms available at the Chamber Office 200 N. Ballard

IN THIS ISSUE:

Obituaries 2 Viewpoints..... 4 Local Record 2 Dog Talk...... 5 Neather 2 Dear Abby 2 Classifieds 7 Afternoon Rush..... 3



PAMPA FORECAST

Thursday



Saturday







Low 55

Low 57

Low 62

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 47. Windy, with a northeast wind 25 to 30 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 79. Windy, with a south southeast wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 55. Windy, with a south wind between 20 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 85. Windy, with a north northwest wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 57. Breezy, with a east southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 92. Windy, with a east northeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming south southwest between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 62. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 20 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

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Pampa High School. Please will be open for normal busi-\$100 Reward it found.

AS OF 5/24 Kelly Culver PAMPA NEWS will not still be grooming med. & be delivered on Mon May can enjoy the Memorial Day JEWELRY REPAIRS ask Holiday. Open Tues. May

THE GRAY County Appraisal District will be LOST DOG White Westie closed Fri May 27th, due to Daisy." Last seen near building construction. We all po2-0841 or 440-1201, ness hours on Tues, May

BANANAGRAMS!

Each set of letters below is arranged alphabetically, and the ? is in the correct alphabetical position. EVEL Figure out what letter the ? represents and rearrange the letters to spell a six-letter word. For example, in A?ENTV the ? could be an A, B, C. D or E. Here it represents a D. which can be combined with the other letters to spell ADVENT The last letter is placed to get you started.



RITUAL, MEDIUM

Obituaries

Frank M. Daugherty, 87

Frank M. Daugherty, 87, died May 22, 2011, in Amarillo.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 26, 2011, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, with Rev. Rick Parnell, associate pastor of Central Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Frank was born April 10,

1924, at Hoover, to J. M. and Twila Daugherty. He was a graduate of Pampa High School and received a Masters Degree in business from West Texas State University in Canyon. He married Patricia Butler in 1949 and they were married for 61 years. He taught school in Groom, farmed and raised cattle east of Pampa, and retired from

Daugherty

the Internal Revenue Service in 1984.

Survivors include his wife, Pat Daugherty of the home; son, Dan Daugherty and wife Donna of Pampa; daughter, Cathy Scribner and husband Billy of Pampa; four grandchildren, Michael Daugherty, AC/2 U.S. Navy, of Corpus Christi, Garrett Scribner and wife Carisa, Misty LeBlanc, OD and husband Toby, and Lindsay Hudson, OD and husband Matt, all of Pampa; five great-grandchildren, Hudson Scribner, Hope Scribner, Tate LeBlanc, Cy LeBlanc, and Hagen Hudson; and a sister, Jean Esposito of Dallas. Frank was preceded in death by two brothers, Leon Daugherty and Bruce Daugherty; and a sister, Vera

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.

James A. Weese, 76

WHITE DEER-James A. Weese, 76, died May 24, 2011, in Amarillo.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Fortherecord

cont. from Tues.

A building check was reported in the 400 block of W. Foster.

Disorderly conduct was of N. Perryton Pkwy. reported in the 400 block of S. Pitts.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of N. Juniper Dr.

Disorderly conduct was reported at Harvester and

A suspicious person was reported at Harvester and Jupiter.

in the 700 block of N. Banks Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 600 block of N. Jupiter. An information call was

reported in the 200 block of N. Miami. A follow-up investiga-

tion was reported in the 2300 block of N. Navajo. An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 2400

block of N. Mary Ellen. An abandoned vehicle of E. Murphy. was reported in the 2500 block of N. Mary Ellen.

was reported at Wells and Somerville. A missing person was Banks.

reported in the 400 block of N. Powell. Theft was reported in the

2800 block of N. Charles. A follow-up investigation was reported in the 600 block of N. Doucette.

Phone harassment was reported in the 700 block of N. Russell.

Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 700 block Kingsmill. of E. Murphy.

block of N. Wells.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block the 100 block of S. Stark-

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 400

block of S. Hughes. An abandoned vehicle Harassment was report-

of Sandlewood Dr.

2800 block of N. Charles. Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block

nance was reported in the 2200 block of N. Lea.

Theft was reported in

bart.

A hit and run was reported in the 2200 block reported in the 200 block Troopers on charges of of W. Kingsmill.

Theft was reported in the 2200 block of N. Dog- the 1900 block of Christy. wood Ln.

of N. Sierra Dr.

the 1200 block of W. of N. Duncan.

Okiahoma. reported in the 700 block 500 block of N. Dwight.

of N. Bradley.

A prowler was reported of S. Cuyler. reported in the 200 block of N. Frost.

of W. Kingsmill. reported in the 1100 block of E. Brown.

of N. Juniper.

A domestic disturbance

ed in the 2100 block of N. reported in the 700 block cation.

reported in the 1100 block

Theft was reported in the

of E. Murphy. A violation of city ordi-

reported in the 1100 block

Theft was reported in

A follow-up investiga-Disorderly conduct was tion was reported in the

Disorderly conduct was was reported in the 800 reported in the 300 block block of N. Hobart.

A suspicious person was A suspicious person was reported in the 600 block

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 300 block

Monday, May 23

A suspicious vehicle and Ballard.

weather. A runaway was report- surance.

ed in the 800 block of N. Wells.

of N. Banks.

Disorderly conduct was An alarm was reported in the 1900 block of N. Hobart.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests over the weekend.

Friday, May 20 Stormy Noelle Mobbs,

the 2500 block of N. Ho- 19, of Checotali, Okla., was arrested by Depart-An information call was ment of Public Safety possession of marijuana over 4 oz., less than 5 lbs. DA

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Bejay Duwayne Ad-Phone harassment was cock, 22, of Checotah, Theft was reported in reported in the 2200 block Okla., was arrested by Department of Public Safety Troopers on charges of possession of marijuana over 4 oz., less than 5 lbs., An abandoned vehicle and not having a driver's license.

Saturday, May 21

A juvenile was arrested by police on two charges of assault causing bodily Disorderly conduct was injury to a family member.

Lexton Bryan Larue, 21, was arrested by police on A prowler was reported violation of parole in con-Disorderly conduct was in the 1100 block of E. nection with charges of possession of a controlled substance.

Nelson Eduardo Perales, was reported in the 1900 was reported at Sunset 28, of Hewphila, Ohio, was arrested by Depart-A DWI was reported in ment of Public Safety Troopers on charges of no driver's license and no in-

> Gage Evan Carruth, 20, was arrested by police on Disorderly conduct was charges of public intoxi-

Sunday, May 22

Jarvis Jerome Jones 24 was arrested by police on charges of driving with an invalid license and failure to appear.

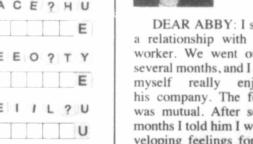
Monday, May 23

Steven Ray Taylor, 48, was arrested by police on charges of driving while intoxicated.



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips



worker. We went out for even stronger friendship. several months, and I found myself really enjoying his company. The feeling counseling and I believe was mutual. After several months I told him I was demore than just friends. He told me he was gay. I was

I have fallen in love with him, but I have had those feelings are in check. We have a special bond

lack of a better term, we have used the words "soul mate" to describe this feelwould like a lifelong commitment with me and has thought about marrying walks on the beach and romantic things aren't a prob- up thinking my mother

anything sexual. kids - we're in our 40s and 50s. He's a wonderful man, and I do want him in my life. Is it wrong to think about a future with him? -CONFUSED ON WHAT TO DO

a relationship with a co- we went on to develop an about it if HE met some-

My advice is not to make a decision this important alone. Check in examine all of your feelveloping feelings for him, that's hard to explain. For ings there. Also, contact the Straight Spouse Net- one thing to be a "foodie" work, which was mentioned in a recent column, ing. He has even said he and talk frankly with others who are involved in mixed relationships. You'll find it online at me. He said holding hands, www.StraightSpouse.org. DEAR ABBY: I grew

> lem for him to share with was a good cook. Now that me, but he cannot offer me I'm married and have lived away from home for 10 He wants to share his years, I realize that Mom, life with me. We aren't with all her good intentions, was an awful cook. She was never adventurous, prefers canned and frozen foods, no vegetables and highly processed grains. I have chosen a completely in the neck to get them of natural, unprocessed fresh foods.

As a result, I now cook all the holiday meals the prep and small tasks. I

I don't want to be a

DEAR ABBY: I started gry all at the same time, but man. How would you feel control freak and say, "My way with dinners at my house only," but I'm struggling to find a compromise when she wants to "treat" us to dinner at her place. with your therapist and Suggestions? - FOODIE IN COLORADO

DEAR FOODIE: It's and another to be a food snob. A "fast-food" meal once every few weeks won't kill you, so be a sport and let your mom reciprocate. And the next day, return to your normal routine to make up for it.

DEAR ABBY: How do you politely refuse letting someone borrow something when he or she asks? Even if it's your best friend or a relative? In the past, I have

loaned items that were not returned in their original condition, or it was a pain opposite path and buy lots back in a timely manner when I needed them for myself. Help, please! TOO UNSELFISH IN PORTLAND, ORE. DEAR TOO

SELFISH: Here's how. Smile and tell the person you no longer lend items to anyone, because they dinner at her house, I feel aged or late, so that is now your "policy." Period.





DEAR CONFUSED: It's not wrong to think about it. But while you're thinking, consider carefully how important sex with Mom helping with is to you. Some, not all, women would be content have tried to encourage her with what he's offering. to eat better and expand her But what if you should horizons, but it isn't sinkmeet someone? You also ing in. Every time we have have been returned damneed to know whether this man is ready, willing like I have just eaten at a and capable of forgoing a fast-food establishment. sexual relationship with a

AFTERNOONRUSH Violent storms tear through heartland

Airports move travelers to safety

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DALLAS (AP) — Travelers and staff at the two major North Texas airports were moved to safety as the threat of tornadoes and large hail threatened the area.

Dallas Love Field spokesman Jose Torres says everyone in and around the airport terminal were moved to a basement beneath the terminal. That's after high winds, lemon-size hail and radar signatures of a possibly forming tornado were observed. He said no one reported actually seeing a tornado at the airport.

Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport spokesman David Magana (mah-GAHN'-yah) told KRLD-AM of Dallas and Fort Worth that people in DFW terminals and aboard planes at the gates were moved Tuesday to interior stairwells and restrooms. He said the airport may remain closed until Wednesday morning to allow crews to inspect the parked aircraft for hail damage.

Storms knock out power

DALLAS (AP) — Storms that blew through North Texas and generated funnel clouds have left thousands of people without electricity and a police officer hurt after being struck by lightning.

Oncor early Wednesday reported more than 39,000 customers without power in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Utility spokeswoman Ashley Burton says crews made significant progress overnight, after nearly 70,000 customers lost electricity in Tuesday night's storms, accompanied by tornado warnings and hail the size of tennis balls.

Irving police say an officer was hospitalized in good condition Wednesday after being struck by lightning while placing flares in a road. The name of the officer injured Tuesday night was not immediately released.

Hail and wind damage in Watauga, Argyle, Azle (AY'-zil) and Denton included windows broken out of vehicles and some lost roofs.

Tougher cockfighting law OKed

AUSTIN (AP) ΓÇö The Texas Senate approved a measure to bolster punishments, including possible jail time, for participating in cockfighting activities.

The bill, which now goes back to the House for approval, makes it a state jail felony to knowingly cause one rooster to fight another, earn money from fights or operate a facility for them. State jail felonies are punishable by 180 days to two years in prison and fines up to \$10,000.

The measure also makes owning or training a cock for fighting a Class A misdemeanor, and attending a fight as a spectator a lesser misdemeanor.

a spectator a lesser misdemeanor.

It also would also make it illegal to make or selling cockfighting equipment.

Supporters say current statutes didn't provide mechanisms to enforce cockfighting laws effectively.

Exxon facing gas questions

DALLAS (AP) — Exxon rode higher oil prices to a \$30 billion profit last year. But shareholders at its annual meeting Wednesday are likely to ask pointed questions about its big push into natural gas.

Since buying XTO Energy last year for \$29 billion, Exxon Mobil Corp. has become the largest natural gas company in the United States.

So far, the deal has backfired. Natural gas prices remain far below 2008 levels. That's one reason, analysts say, Exxon's stock has lagged behind that of rivals Chevron and ConocoPhillips.

Exxon's stock rose 7 percent last year, compared with gains of 19 percent gain at Chevron and 33 percent at Conoco. Shares have been more competitive so far this year. Still, only four of 17 analysts surveyed by FactSet rate Exxon a "Buy."

Colo. senator cited in crash

DENVER (AP) — Texas troopers say a Colorado state senator involved in a head-on collision that killed a pregnant woman has been cited with three misdemeanor traffic violations.

Investigators say Suzanne Williams' car drifted into oncoming traffic Dec. 26 along U.S. 385 and crashed into an oncoming car. Authorities have said Williams' adult son and two grandsons weren't wearing seat belts. Colorado state Rep. Nancy Todd has said the family told her that Williams' son was trying to put pajamas on the boys at the time.

A grand jury didn't indict Williams. But Texas authorities said Tuesday she was cited with driving on the wrong side of the road, having an unrestrained child under 17 and an unrestrained child under 8. Her son also was cited with not wearing a seat belt.

Former cop faces child porn rap

LUBBOCK (AP) — A former West Texas police officer who resigned after federal authorities searched computers at his home and work earlier this month faces charges of possession of child pornography.

Richard Lee Lewis, 50, surrendered to federal authorities Monday and was freed on his own recognizance the same day following an appearance in federal court. He is scheduled to be arraigned June 1.

Lewis' attorney Mark Snodgrass said Tuesday that the former officer in Slaton, near Lubbock, was cooperating with authorities.

"We'll wait and see what the evidence shows," he said.

Maine woman to help at funeral

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — The Maine woman who found the body of a 6-year-old boy beneath a blanket on a South Berwick back road is going to help officiate at his funeral in Texas.

The Portland Press Herald says Linda Gove, who has worked as a missionary in Africa, will officiate Saturday at the funeral of Camden Hughes at the Calvary Baptist Church in Grand Prairie, Texas, along with Pastor Bill Skaar.

Gove discovered Camden's body May 14.

Camden's mother, 42-year-old Julianne McCrery, of Irving, Texas, was arrested in Massachusetts on May 17 and charged in New Hampshire with second-degree murder in her son's death. He was asphyxiated.

Police believe he was killed in Hampton, N.H.

McCrery is due to make a court appearance on
Thursday.

EL RENO, Okla. (AP) ΓÇö Violent storms that swept through a chunk of the central U.S. killed at least 13 people in three states, while toppling trees, crushing cars and ripping apart a rural Arkansas fire station.

The high-powered storms arrived Tuesday night and early Wednesday, just days after a massive tornado tore up the southwest Missouri city of Joplin and killed 122 people. The latest storms killed eight people in Oklahoma, two in Kansas and three more in Arkansas, before petering out.

Most of the Oklahoma fatalities occurred in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. Cherokee Ballard, a spokeswoman for the Oklahoma Medical Examiner's office, said early Wednesday that the storms killed five people in Canadian County, two in Logan County and one in Grady County.

Ballard said a child was among those killed, but she had no other details.

At least three people died as the storms bombarded Arkansas' Franklin and Johnson counties.

Department of Emergency Management spokesman Tommy Jackson said one person died after a tomado raked across the tiny western Arkansas community of Denning early Wednesday, and another died in an area called Bethlehem, in Johnson County.

Franklin County's chief deputy sheriff, Deputy Devin Bramlett, said early Wednesday that one person also died in the community of Etna.

Several people were also injured in Franklin and Johnson

CASA

cont. from page 1

they didn't have a volun-

"You can talk to one

of our volunteers about

being at an adoption party

where kids have been free

for adoption and they're

going to their forever fam-

ily," Watts continued. "Or

the great stories we have

about families doing what

they needed to do to get

their children back, and

then we get to celebrate

the fact that a child gets to

return home. Whatever the

case, you can make a dif-

ference in the life of one

child, and that can have

so much of an impact on

future generations... If you

have a desire to make a

difference in a child's life,

we'd love to talk to you."

For more information,

call the CASA office at

806-669-7638 or attend

the meeting on Thursday.

the beginning, and I don't know I ever remember having this high of a rate of removal."

Those numbers, Watts said, are just a small part of a disturbing trend. In the eight counties CASA serves, the number of confirmed child abuse victims jumped last year from 131 to 245. In Gray County alone in 2010, there were 173 confirmed victims.

For further perspective, Watts pointed to a pair of statistics from the Child Protective Services Annual Report. The statewide average rate of confirmed abuse victims per 1,000 children, Watts said, is 10.2 percent. The rate in Gray County is 33.5.

"We are three times the state average of confirmed victims coming into the foster care system," Watts said.

For any people interested in joining the CASA cause, there will be an informational meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday at the CASA office, 315 N. Ballard.

"The volunteers have to fill out an application, they have to pass a criminal history and a CPS history background check and we have to get three references that would recommend them to be a CASA volunteer," Watts said. "Then, they would enter our training program."

The next scheduled training class, Watts continued, starts on June 7 and consists of 30 total hours of class, courtroom training and homework. Pending completion of the class, volunteers are sworn in by a judge as an officer of the court, and, in CASA's service area, are appointed as the guardian of the child whose case they work.

"Their job is to advocate for the best interest of the children they are appointed to," said Watts.

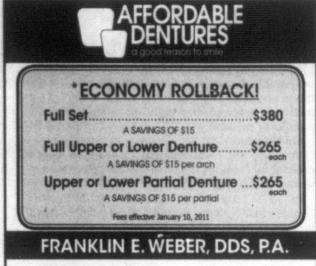
She added that most CASA volunteers tell her that they spend an average of 10 hours a month working each case. Volunteers must see their children once a month face to face, with the majority of the work outside of that done through phone and e-mail communications Child Protective Services caseworkers, teachers, therapists and placement providers (foster parents or relatives).

Watts said that the reward of helping a child in need far outweighs the commitment involved in being a CASA volunteer.

"There is no volunteer role that you'll ever feel that you will see as immediate an impact in your volunteer job," Watts said. "You will see immediately that you make a difference in a child's life. Through the volunteer's work, that child's voice is heard in the court system in a way it would not be heard if

counties. A rural fire station in Franklin County was left without a roof as emergency workers rushed to the wounded. Downed trees and power lines tossed across roadways also slowed search-and-rescue crews' efforts.

In Kansas, police said two people died when high winds threw a tree into their van around 6 p.m. near the small town of St. John, about 100 miles west of Wichita. The highway was shut down because of storm damage.



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Franklin E. Weber, DDS

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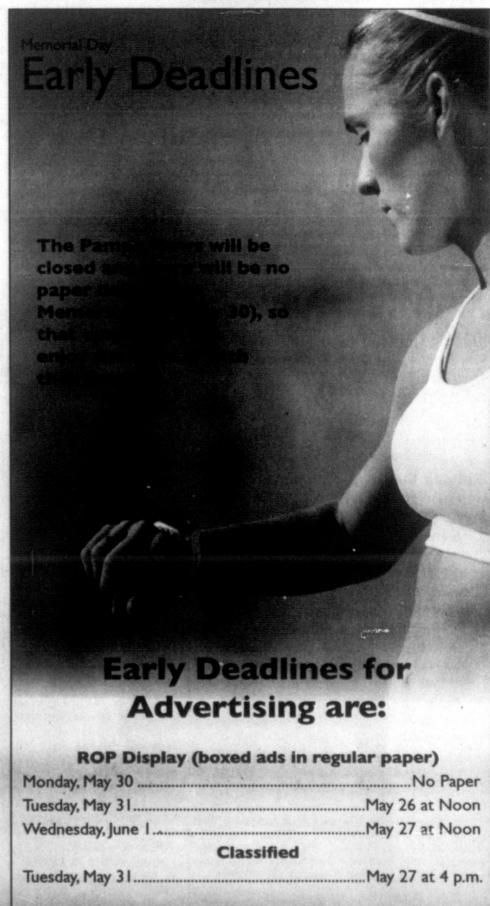
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Have a safe and happy holiday!

- The Pampa News

viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, May 25, the 145th day of 2011. There are 220 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On May 25, 1961, President John F. Kennedy told a joint session of Congress, "I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth." (That goal was accomplished eight years later with the Apollo 11 mission.)

On this date:

In 1787, the Constitutional Convention began meeting in Philadelphia after enough delegates had shown up for a quorum.

In 1810, Argentina began its revolt against Spanish rule with the forming of the Primera Junta

In 1911, Mexican President Porfirio Diaz resigned; he went into exile in France for the rest of his life. In 1935, Babe Ruth hit the 714th and final home

run of his career, for the Boston Braves, in a game against the Pittsburgh Pirates. In 1946, Transjordan (now Jordan) became a kingdom as it proclaimed its new monarch,

Abdullah I. In 1968, the Gateway Arch in St. Louis was dedicated by Vice President Hubert Humphrey and

Interior Secretary Stewart Udall. In 1979, 273 people died when an American Airlines DC-10 crashed on takeoff from Chicago's O'Hare airport.

In 1986, an estimated 7 million Americans participated in "Hands Across America" to raise money for the nation's hungry and homeless.

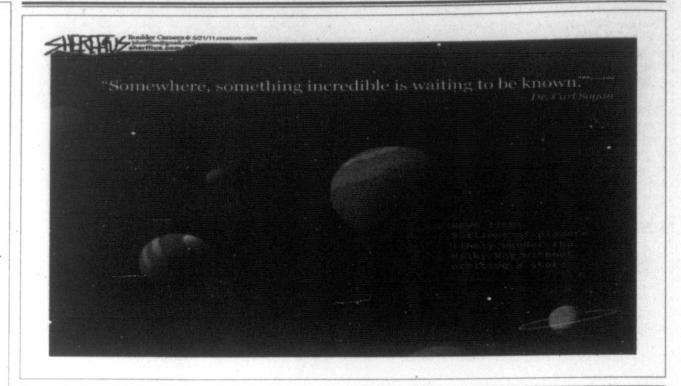
Ten years ago: A federal appeals court panel lifted an injunction against publication of "The Wind Done Gone," Alice Randall's satirical retelling of "Gone With The Wind" from a black view-

Five years ago: Former Enron Corp. chiefs Kenneth Lay and Jeffrey Skilling were convicted in Houston of conspiracy and fraud for the company's downfall. (Lay died in July 2006 from heart disease and his convictions were vacated; Skilling faces resentencing after his original 24-year sentence was overturned.)

One year ago: President Barack Obama ordered 1,200 National Guard troops to boost security along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Today's Birthdays: Lyricist Hal David is 90. Country singer-songwriter Tom T. Hall is 75. Actor Sir Ian McKellen is 72. Country singer Jessi Colter is 68. Actress-singer Leslie Uggams is 68. Movie director and Muppeteer Frank Oz is 67. Actress Karen Valentine is 64. Rock singer Klaus Meine (The Scorpions) is 63. Actress Patti D'Arbanville is 60. Actress Connie Sellecca is 56. Rock singer-musician Paul Weller is 53. Actorcomedian Mike Myers is 48. Actor Joseph Reitman is 43. Actress Anne Heche is 42. Actresses Lindsay and Sidney Greenbush are 41. Actor-comedian Jamie Kennedy is 41. Actor Justin Henry is 40. Actress Molly Sims is 38. Singer Lauryn Hill is 36. Actor Cillian Murphy is 35. Actor Ethan Suplee is 35. Actor Corbin Allred is 32.

Thought for Today: "I hate quotations. Tell me what you know." - Ralph Waldo Emerson, American essavist and poet (1803-1882)



States cut weeks for unemployment benefits

KEVIN FREKING Associated Press analysis

WASHINGTON (AP) - Some of the states that have drained their unemployment insurance funds are cutting the number of weeks that a laid-off worker can count on those benefits. Legislators are trying to limit tax increases for businesses to replenish the pool and are hoping the federal government keeps stepping in when the economy slumps.

Michigan, Missouri and Arkansas recently reduced the maximum number of weeks that the jobless can get state unemployment benefits. Florida is on the verge of doing so. Unemployment in those states ranges from 7.8 percent in Arkansas to 11.1 percent in Florida.

The benefit cuts come as legislatures deal with the damage that the recession inflicted on state unemployment insurance programs. The sharp increase in the number of people who lost their jobs drained the reservoir of money dedicated to paying out benefits.

About 30 states borrowed more than \$44 billion from the federal government to continue payments to laid-off workers. Many states hastened the insolvency of their funds by keeping balances at historically low levels going into the downturn.

The burden of replenishing the funds and paying off the loans will fall primarily on businesses through higher taxes, but the benefit cuts are an effort to limit the tax increases.

States usually provide up to 26 weeks of benefits to laid-off workers. Michigan and Missouri have cut that to a maximum 20 weeks. Arkansas went to 25

Florida is considering a more complex change that would link the duration of benefits to the strength of the economy. The cap would range from 23 weeks during periods of double-digit unemployment to as low as 12 weeks during periods of extremely low unemployment. The Florida Legislature approved the changes, but the governor hasn't signed the bill.

Once state benefits are exhausted, laid-off workers often are eligible for 13 weeks to 20 weeks of extended benefits. States and the federal government usually split the cost for that program. During recessions, Congress typically takes the aid a step further, providing several more months of emergency benefits entirely paid for by the federal government.

The actions taken by legislatures apply specifically to state benefits,

but also will reduce future federal benefits because the changes affect the formula used to calculate them.

Allen McClendon, 40, of Kansas City, Mo., said he lost his job as a mechanic in August 2010 and has been getting unemployment benefits in Missouri since February. He said the payments allow him to buy food, make payments on his pickup truck and pay for gas and auto insurance. He is worried about what will happen if his state and federal benefits run out before he lands a job.

Before that happens, he hopes to get training from a Missouri employment center that would allow him to get a commercial driver's license or to repair heating and cooling units.

"If they run out before I've completed my schooling and have got a job, then I'm really in trouble," he said. "I'd so much rather be working than dealing with this," he said.

Benefits vary from state to state, but average about \$300 a week, or about one-third of a recipient's previous wages.

In good economic times, most of the unemployed find a new job before their benefits expire. But in times of high unemployment, states have come to count on extra help from the federal government. Some say that reliance is playing a role in

the bills to cap benefits. "A lot of states are basically saying, 'Hey, why are we paying for these benefits when, in a recession, the federal government will step in?" said Steve Woodbury, an economics professor at Michigan State

University. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., said relying on the federal government to keep up the cash flow is risky. She said last year's fight to extend unemployment benefits was difficult, with Democrats barely able to generate the votes necessary to pass a bill.

"I think it would be an error in judgment to assume that the Republican House would extend unemployment benefits," she said.

Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said Congress in the future might worry that repeated extensions of unemployment benefits would serve as a deterrent to finding a job.

"There's some truth to that" concern, said Hatch, the top Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over the pro-

Employers pay both state and federal taxes for unemployment insurance. States collect the taxes that pay for basic benefits. The federal taxes help pay for administering the program and providing the federal government's share of extended benefits. State tax collections will have increased about 44 percent since 2009, according to the Department of Labor.

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Still, as a percentage of wages paid, unemployment insurance taxes are at historically low levels, less than 1 percent. When the unemployment insurance program began in 1938, the tax rate for unemployment insurance averaged about 2.7 percent of wages.

Nevertheless, higher taxes in tough economic times are challenging businesses. States apply their highest tax rates to those industries with the most worker turnover. Those often are the same industries that are hardest hit by recession, such as manufacturers.

In Florida, the minimum tax that is applied to businesses with low employee turnover went up from about \$25 per employee to about \$72 this year. The maximum tax for businesses with high turnover remained at \$378 per employee.

Companies could use that tax money to keep their doors open or to expand and hire more workers, said Teve Reeves, a policy director for the Florida Chamber of Commerce.

"For our economy to thrive again. we need businesses to be strong,' Reeves said. "They want to have more employees. They want to open new stores. ... They've got to have the capital to be able to provide those jobs."

But Rick McHugh, of the National Employment Law Project, argued that legislatures should not shore up their unemployment insurance programs by making workers share the pain.

"It's not a shared-sacrifice situation because, certainly in most states, employer organizations lobbied to keep the programs from being properly funded in advance of the recession," McHugh said. "Now. they're saying the program is broke so we have to cut benefits"

McHugh said he's worried that more states will seek to limit benefits when legislatures return to work next spring. Most have adjourned for the year.

"It's really a threat to the vitality of the safety nets because each state feels pressure to go to that lowest common denominator," McHugh

Associated Press writer Heather Hollingsworth in Kansas City, Mo., contributed to this report

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

806-669-2525 Fax: 806-669-2520

Randall Pribble Publisher

rpribble@thepampanews.com

ReDonn Woods Advertising Manager

rwoods@thepampanews.com **Sue Pribble**

Advertising Representative spribble@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor Classified Advertising classified@thepampanews.com

Kera Kent

Subscriptions circulation@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair Accounting

bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Marcus Elkins Press Supervisor

Arnie Aurellano

Editor

editor@thepampanews.com

David Bowser

Reporter

dbowser@thepampanews.com

Andrew Glover

Reporter

aglover@thepampanews.com

Marijane Kent

Composing

composing@thepampanews.com

press@thepampanews.com Chico Ramirez

Circulation Manager

Circulation2@thepampanews.com

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Tornado safety tips to help Texans survive

Tornadoes can occur at any time of year in Texas, but they happen most often in spring and summer. When severe weather threatens, monitor TV and radio broadcasts for storm information, as well as NOAA weather radio. Most tornado fatalities are caused by flying debris. When a tornado is sighted, the most important rule is to get low and stay

In or near buildings:

·Seek shelter in an interior room on the lowest floor of a home, office or other building. Shelter in a windowless area: a stairwell, bathroom, hallway or storage closet.

·Avoid any area with a wide, unsupported roof such as an auditorium, gymnasium, cafeteria or theater. Avoid areas with windows or large amounts of glass.

·At school, follow the drill and go to a designated shelter area, usually interior hallways on the lowest floor.

•At the shopping center, go to the interior rooms and halls on the lowest floor. Do not leave the shopping center to get in your vehicle.

*If you are in a mobile home, get out immediately and take shelter in a nearby sturdy building.

•If you are in open country, take cover on low ground, preferably lying flat in a ditch or ravine.

In your vehicle: •If the tornado appears to stay

in the same place, but is growing larger, it is headed toward you. Take shelter AWAY from the vehicle. Take shelter inside a nearby sturdy building or lie flat in a ditch or ravine.

·Avoid highway overpasses.

Parking or taking shelter under a bridge or overpass is extremely dangerous due to flying debris and the possibility the structure may col-

·Parking beneath an overpass on traffic lanes creates a deadly hazard for others, who may plow into your vehicle at full highway speeds in poor visibility. This can trap people in the storm's path or block emergency transport.

•If you are trapped in your vehicle. keep your seat belt on and lean down as low as possible, away from windshield and windows.

For more information on tornadoes, see NOAA's Storm Prediction; Center's Tornado FAQ page.

For more information on all hazards preparedness, visit www.Ready. gov and www.redcross.org

Responsible breeder looks for responsible dog owner

ing methods is born of

their knowledge of the

stages of a dog's devel-

opment. Equally impor-

tant are their efforts to

devote space and time

to promote the individu-

ality of each dog. This

provides a gauge for how

and when to introduce a

pup to the many faces of

this process ultimate-

ly serves both the dog

and his future owner.

Responsible breeders

make every effort to raise

healthy, confident dogs.

For most, the reward is in

the journey, which ends

not with the sale of a

puppy but with the mak-

The cräme de la cräme

of breeders don't sell

dogs; they interview

people. They have more than a financial stake in

their dogs. They have a

heart investment. They have a bond. And they're

looking for an owner

who will give "their" dog

the love and attention he

deserves — and to which

"The woman supports

the Salvation Army

doing a good job - and

she wrote a check for

"It surprised me," he

added. "I really didn't

think we would get that

\$20,000 in donations so

The donations mean

that some needy Pampa

children will be in a

structured summer day

program and receive

quickly."

she thinks we are

ing of a perfect match.

the world at large.

Every nuance



Last week, we highlighted the focused attention a responsible breeder brings to the first five weeks of a dog's life. But the work doesn't stop at week five, and the benefits of perseverance last a lifetime.

Cardigan Welsh Corgi breeders Steve and Kelly Porter believe that "from the moment puppies enter the world, they begin to learn and understand. We work to get newborn puppies to be confident and comfortable with their surroundings. The result is a firm foundation for training, which will ensure a happy, mentally healthy and eager-to learn-dog.'

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The Porters spend upward of 12 weeks "exposing every pup to as many textures and sounds and experiences with people, animals and objects as possible - all in an effort to increase each puppy's self-awareness and confidence."

The intelligence behind the Porters' puppy-rear-

She rolled up her

The result of her

efforts was a \$5,450

grant from the Gray-

Pampa Foundation, Inc.,

and another grant of

\$5,450 from the David

"That was great, but we

needed another \$10,000,

so Kimberly contacted

a lady she knows in

Canadian," Martin said.

Foundation, Inc.

sleeves and began call-

Salvation

strong ideas of where a person should get their dog. Many people who turn to a breeder have a specific reason for doing so. There's a reason farmers love collies. There's a reason hunters have a proclivity toward retrievers. There's a rea-

he's become accustomed.

Some dog lovers have

son K-9 units are almost exclusively staffed with German shepherds and search-and-rescue teams usually include a trusty hound dog.

Some people want dogs for protection. Others need dogs for physical or psychological reasons. There are even those people for whom a certain type of dog is literally prescribed.

The important thing is to know your options, and a good dog breeder is certainly one of them. So if you're the proud owner of a golf course haunted by gophers, go and out and find the best Jack Russell terrier breeder around. You won't regret it, and now you know

what to look for. Woof!

Dog trainer Matthew "Uncle Matty" Margolis is co-author of 18 books about dogs, a behaviorist, a popular radio and television guest, and host of the PBS series "WOOF! It's a Dog's Life!"

cont. from page 1

needed nutrition during

benefiting from the pro-

gram," Martin said. "We

are definitely meeting

some needs that aren't

And as far as next

"We do this one year at

a time," Martin laughed,

"but I think the grant programs (used before)

will fall back into place

for next year."

otherwise serviced.'

"The community is

breakfast and lunch.

CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

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5 Maggie's

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natives

9 Finished

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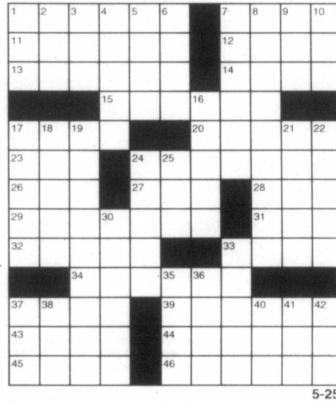
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42 Behold

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City

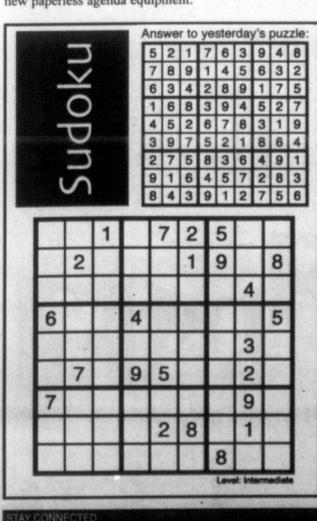
cont. from page 1

seal coating and approved the installation of new stop signs at Sumner and Randy Matson and at Sumner and Harvester, next to the Pampa's new H2O Water Park.

 The city commission will also use \$93,000 in excess sales tax revenue to expand the amount of seal coating they will do on Pampa streets this summer.

· Commissioners also approved paying the city's April bills totaling \$2.4 million.

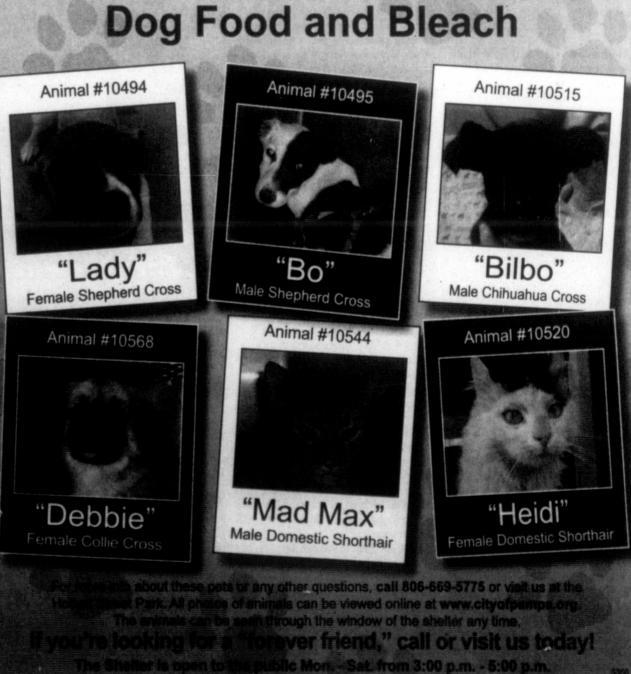
· Following Tuesday's meeting, the commission adjourned into a work session for training on the city's new paperless agenda equipment.





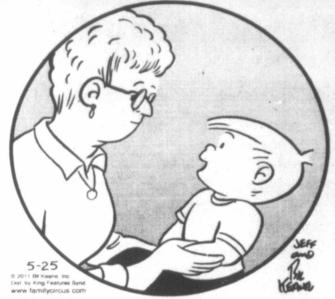
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS





"Are you considered an antique?"

Non Sequitur



Nest Heads





HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, May 26, 2011:

This year, you open up and express a new vitality and strength. You might be hard to stop when focused on a goal or busy with friends. Commitments involving groups become possible. You enjoy a general sense of ease and direction. If you are single, friendship and romance will be closely tied in some fashion. If you are attached, remember that your sweetie is your friend too. ARIES is your natural cheer-

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** You suddenly feel re-energized. You wonder if your preference will work for others. Good question. Listen to your instincts when dealing with others. Some people find you unusually unpredictable of late. They will get used to it. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

** ★ Know that you are better off evaluating rather than acting. You might want to consider veering in a new direction. Right now, play out your options in your mind, without sharing them. Soon you will know what is right for you. Then you will share. Tonight: Vanishing while you can.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** You are full of fun and energy. Somehow you might have to break some patterns that others are vested in you following. Understand what is impossible to change. You might need to head in another direction. Tonight: Where your friends are

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

** Be willing to take a stand and head in a new direction. Recognize what is happening behind the scenes with someone you care about. Listen to a higher-up, parent or authority figure. You need to follow through on a request here, if you don't want any flak. Tonight: A must appearance. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Break precedence once more. What you come up with could be very exciting and unexpected. Consider a walk on the wild side - in your terms, mentally break past restrictive thinking. You know what you want. You know where you are going. Tonight: Wherever

there is great music VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

*** Work with a partner who suddenly becomes so proactive that you might not know how to handle this person. Go with the moment. You could be jolted by the outcome as well. Think positively. Tonight: In the throes of the moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Defer to others without any expectations. When the unexpected does occur, you won't be as surprised. You might be quite interested as others reveal themselves. Stay connected with some basic precepts and understand others' expectations. Tonight: Just accept rather than judge.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

*** Dive into your day-to-day life as if there is no tomorrow and there were no yesterday. Can you put yourself 100 percent into the moment? Does this not have something to do with the true art of living? Recognize if you cannot stay pres-

ent, too. Tonight: Soak in a hot tub. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** Your mind nearly illustrates every sentence you hear. Your creativity and imagination are off the charts. Some people might find it difficult to grasp your fleeting ideas. Not everyone is on the same wavelength as you. Tonight: Think and act as if it were Friday night.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

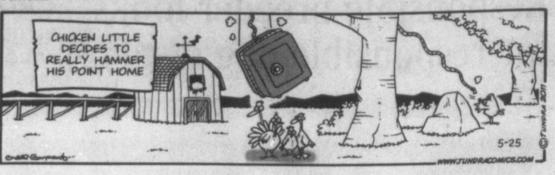
*** Your ability to move past disruption on the home front could be important. On the other hand, you might want to toss yourself right into it. Be sensitive to the consequences here. Instead of being so mum, share. Tonight: Stay close to home. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** You might want to discuss a situation more openly. Your assumptions, though seemingly grounded to you, might not be when you get into a discussion. Understanding where others come from could be significant. Tonight: Make merry with

some friends. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

*** Curb a need to be possessive and touchy. No matter how you feel and what goes on, detach and at least make an attempt to take in the whole picture. You ht want to try to walk in another person's shoes as well. Laughter surrounds the moment. Tonight: Treat yourself to flowers or a favorite dessert.

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time. Call 662-9775 662-4653 GRAPHIC Designer w/

experience in AutoCAD and an Estimator Please call 669-0158. TEXAS Rose Steak house is now hiring for servers. Apply in person. No phone calls! **FULL-TIME Pharmacy** Clerk. Apply in person

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N. Hobart, Pampa. No

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21 Help Wanted

21 Help Wanted

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Sports

PHS grad Tice earns academic honors in senior season

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Many would remember Pampa High School Graduate Cassy Tice as a power hitter, as she is the all-time Lady Harvester leader in home runs. At Southeastern University, Tice isn't

just achieving on the field but in the classroom as she received two academic

awards.
Tice received the Storm's Academic All-Lone Star Conference North Division selection and the Leadership Award in the Department of Recreation. The college senior said she was honored.

"It's something that will stay with me a long time," Tice said. "I always want to maintain my grades."

In her four years at Southeastern, Tice maintained at least a 3.3 grade point average. Tice's major is occupational safety and health, which she is currently looking for certification. While she is in the process of getting certifications, Tice has also been giving hitting lessons.

"I just want to help (kids) with softball and improve their game," Tice said.

One of her students was Pampa High School freshman Krysten Miller, who matched Lice's acheivement of hitting for the cycle. Tice said Miller was one of her more eager students.

"She told me that she wanted to challenge my records," Tice said. "I told her to go for it."

In her senior season at Southeastern, Tice batted .300, recorded 42 hits, hit seven doubles and four home runs. The senior drove in 21 runs and scored 28. Tice said her memorable moment was when they played Midwestern March 11.

"They were number one in our conference with one loss when they came to our place," Tice said. "I hit a home run off Brittany Tanner, who was my rival since my freshman year of high school when she played for Burkburnett. We won 3-2."

Tice said overall her senior year went well but was disappointed with how it ended.

"No one predicted our lineup would have gone 0-fer," Tice said. "It was really upsetting."

Southeastern lost 4-0 to West Texas A&M and 1-0 to Cameron May 5. Tice said it was a good season considering the circumstances.

"We were a totally different team for the second year in a row," Tice said. "All and all it was a better year."

Southeastern went 26-19 and was 13-5 in conference play.



submitted photo

Cassy Tice looks to connect on a ball during the 2011 season. This year Tice received two academic honors.

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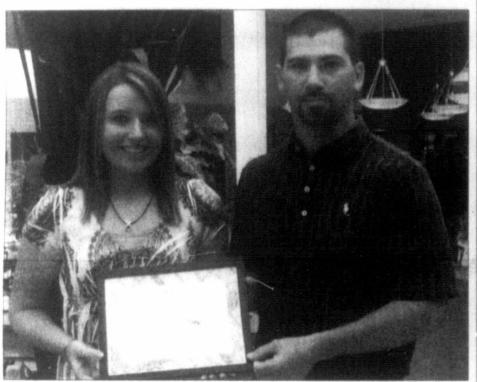
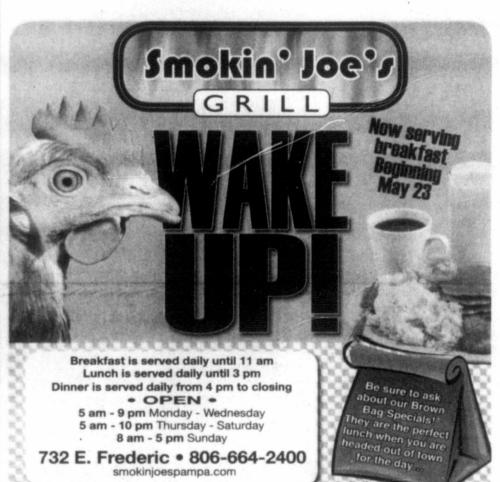


photo courtesy of **Donna Hoelting**

Senior Liz Hoelting and Pampa head golf coach Alan Segura hold her certificate after she was named 1A/2A/3A golfer of the month for April at the Amarillo Chamber Sports Recognition Banquet at the Ambassador hotel. Hoelting finished second in district and 29th at regionals.





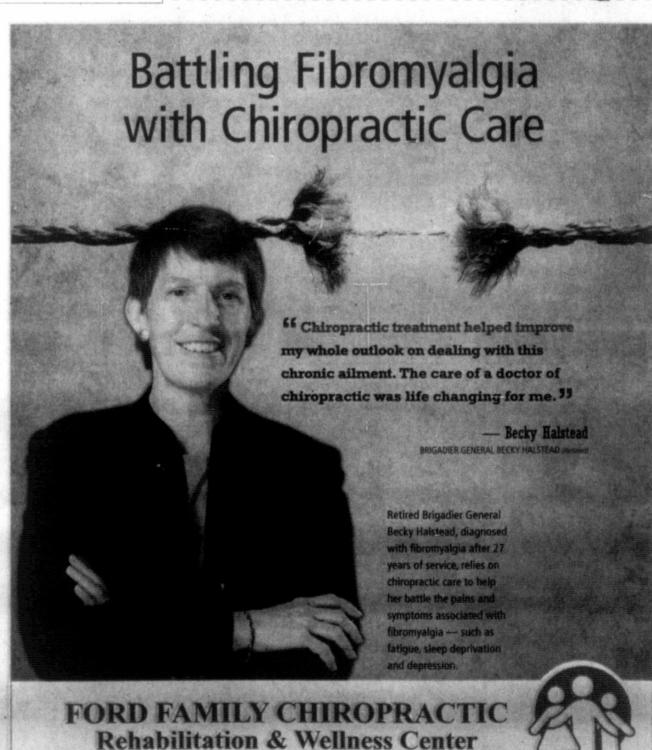
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